



## Orcinus orca

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<b>Annex</b>	IV
<b>Priority</b>	No
<b>Species group</b>	Mammals
<b>Regions</b>	Marine Atlantic, Marine Macaronesian, Marine Mediterranean

### *Orcinus orca*

The killer whale, *Orcinus orca*, is present in the Marine Atlantic-, Marine Macaronesian, and Marine Mediterranean region. The species is reported as “occasional, vagrant or marginal” in many of the countries.

Overall status is unknown (XX) in the Marine Atlantic-, and Marine Macaronesian region because consistent data is missing for all reported parameters. It is the same assessment as in 2007. Whale and Dolphin Conservation suggests that the Population assessment of the UK should rather be Unfavourable-Bad (this would mean that the status for the Marine Atlantic region would be Unfavourable-Bad) and it questions the validity of habitat being equivalent to the estimated range as well.

In the Marine Mediterranean region, overall status is favourable (FV) based on the report from Spain where the species is common. The species was reported as unknown (XX) in 2007 in the marine Mediterranean region.

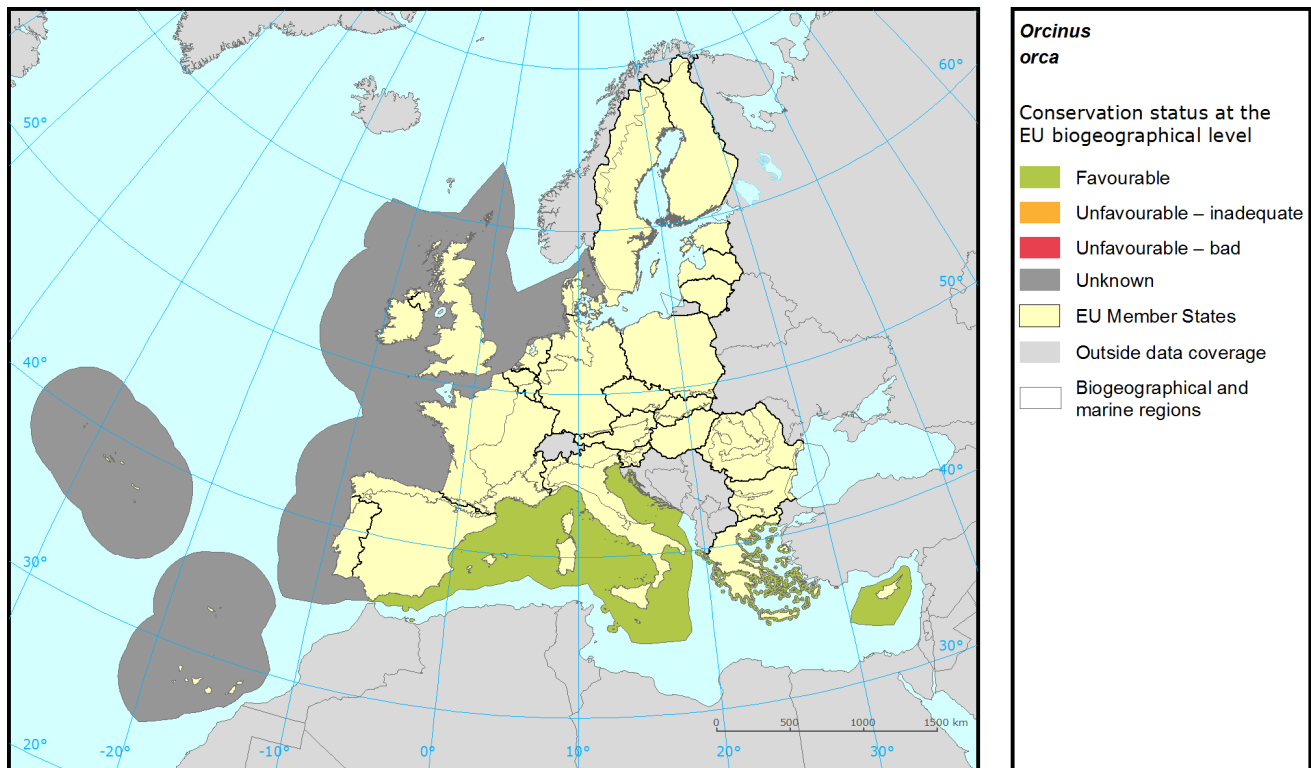
The species is listed as ‘data deficient’ in the Red List of threatened species. More data is thus needed for the species.

The species is reported as being vulnerable to various forms of pollution, boating activities, professional passive fishing, reduction in prey availability, and noise disturbance such as that generated by military or seismic exploration activities.

# Species: *Orcinus orca*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



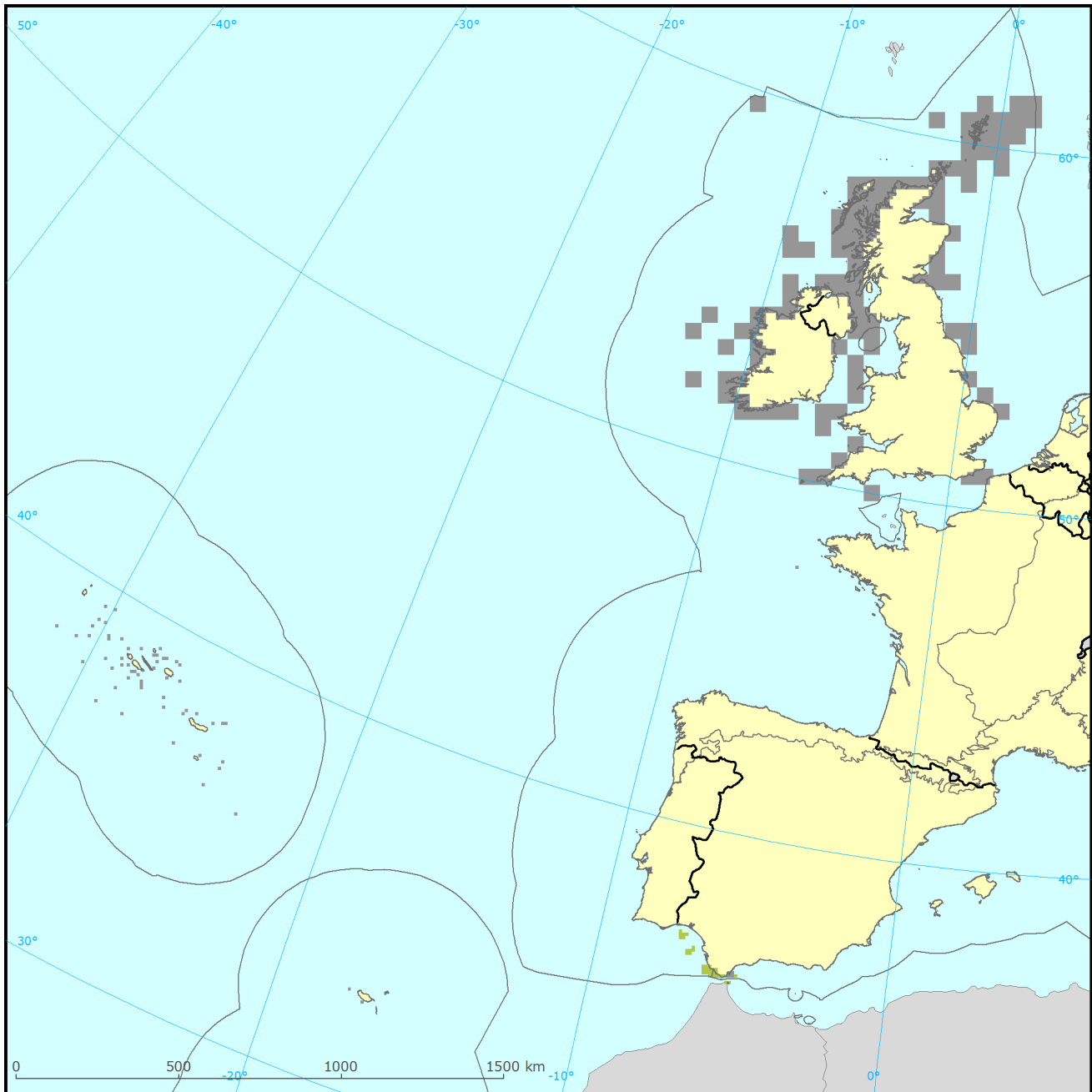
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
MATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX	x	97	XX	
MMAC	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	x	2	XX	
MMED	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV	=	0.52	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more information<sup>i</sup>

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## Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



### *Orcinus orca*

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- |   |  |
|---|--|
|  Favourable                |  EU Member States                   |
|  Unfavourable - inadequate |  Outside data coverage              |
|  Unfavourable - bad        |  Biogeographical and marine regions |
|  Unknown                   |  |

The map shows both Conservation Status and distribution using a 10 km x 10 km grid. Conservation status is assessed at biogeographical level. Therefore the representation in each grid cell is only illustrative.

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MS Region	Conservation status of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
ES MATL	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV		1.0		
FR MATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
IE MATL	FV	XX	FV	XX	XX		23.1	XX	
NL MATL									
PT MATL								XX	
UK MATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		75.9	XX	
ES MMAC	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
PT MMAC	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		100.0	XX	
ES MMED	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV		100.0	XX	Changed method
FR MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
IT MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
UK MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				

Knowing that not all changes in conservation status between the reporting periods were genuine, Member States were asked to give the reasons for changes in conservation status. Bulgaria and Romania only joined the EU in 2007 and Greece did not report for 2007-12 so no reason is given for change for these countries. Greek data shown above is from 2001-06.

## Main pressures and threats reported by Member States

Member States were asked to report the 20 most important threats and pressures using an agreed hierarchical list which can be found on the [Article 17 Reference Portal](#). Pressures are activities which are currently having an impact on the species and threats are activities expected to have an impact in the near future. Pressures and threats were ranked in three classes 'high, medium and low importance'; the tables below only show threats and pressures classed as 'high', for some species there were less than ten threats or pressures reported as highly important.

### Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

Code	Activity	Frequency
H03	Pollution to marine waters	43
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	29
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	29

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This information is derived from the Member State national reports submitted to the European Commission under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive in 2013 and covering the period 2007-2012. More detailed information, including the MS reports, is available at:

<http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/species/summary/?group=Mammals&period=3&subject=Orcinus+orca>

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**i Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level:** Current Conservation Status (Current CS) shows the status for the reporting period 2007-2012, Previous Conservation Status (Previous CS) for the reporting period 2000-2006. Reason for change in conservation status between the reporting periods indicates whether the changes in the status were genuine or not genuine. Previous Conservation Status was not assessed for Steppic, Black Sea and Marine Black Sea regions. For these regions the Previous status is therefore considered as 'unknown'. The percentage of the species population occurring within the biogeographical/marine region (% in region) is calculated based on the area of GIS distribution.